

Remarks

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

With respect to the art rejection, claim 1 has been amended by adding in the subject matter of claim 11 indicating that the additional additive is an active or skin modifying agent and also indicating that this agent is contained within the film-forming polymer.

The present invention is directed at a method of delivering active or skin modifying agents to a user using a multi-functional oil absorbing sheet which initially provides the advantages of the oil absorbing sheets such as described in Kondo. Namely, oil absorbing sheets that absorb skin oil and readily have the ability to change in transparency to indicate to the user that the oil had been absorbed. The invention claimed is subsequently using this same wipe to deliver an active skin or skin modifying agent by utilizing the opposite side of the wipe where the active agent is contained within that opposite side without affecting the oil absorbing properties of the wipe on the other face and prematurely delivering the active or skin modifying agent (i.e., by being present on both faces of the porous substrate).

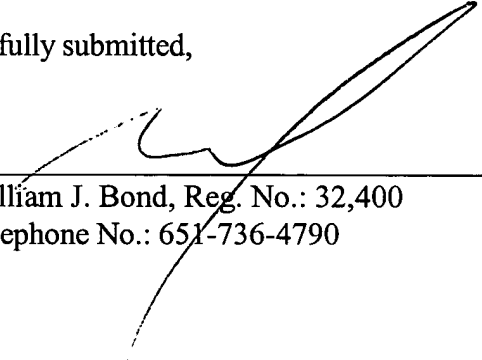
Neither applied reference provides a solution to this particular problem. In Kondo, the focus is in providing an oil absorbing wipe which has an excellent ability to absorb facial oil. Additional modifications of the wipe are described in Kondo where one or both faces of the oil absorbing wipe can be made to be slightly hydrophilic so that the wipe has the ability to absorb both oil and sweat. The primary materials used are surface active agents added to the film-forming polymer when forming the porous sheet, although also described is subsequently providing a coating onto the sheet to modify a surface of the oil absorbing sheet.

Kondo does not teach the use of a specific surface coating on one face of a oil absorbing porous substrate where the coating is a film-forming polymer which contains an active or skin modifying agent which active agent is contained within the film-forming polymer to preferentially deliver this active or skin modifying agent subsequent to use of the opposite side of the porous substrate as an oil absorbing wipe. This concept is neither taught nor disclosed in Kondo. Kondo does not teach the use of his hydrophilic polymers as anything other than a hydrophilic modifier used to enable his wipes to simultaneously absorb both oil and water.

Kondo does not indicate that these polymers can also be used to "deliver" surface active or skin modifying agents to the user's skin.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claim 1 as amended is allowable and distinguishable over the art and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Applicants acknowledge the allowability of claims 45-61 and such is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW AMENDMENTS MADE:

1. (ONCE AMENDED) An oil absorbing wipe material suitable for wiping a users skin comprising an oil absorbing porous substrate having two faces wherein the substrate has a transparency of less than 65 percent which porous substrate changes transparency upon absorption of oil, said porous substrate having a generally non-tacky flexible coating on at least a portion of at least one face, said coating comprising a film forming polymer with at least one additional additive comprising an active or skin modifying agent contained within the film-forming polymer which coating is visible on the coated face of the porous substrate and which coating does not penetrate to the opposite face of the porous substrate.
2. (ONCE AMENDED) The oil absorbing wipe material of claim 1 wherein the oil absorbing wipe is formed from a [filmlike] thermoplastic material.
10. (ONCE AMENDED) The oil absorbing wipe material of claim 1 wherein the [additional] film forming polymer comprises polyvinylpyrrolidone.
12. (ONCE AMENDED) The oil absorbing wipe material of claim [11] 1 wherein the active or skin modifying agent is salicylic acid.
13. (ONCE AMENDED) The oil absorbing wipe material of claim 1 wherein the coating additive further comprises nonactive agents.
25. (ONCE AMENDED) The oil absorbing wipe material of claim 1 wherein the porous oil absorbing [sheet has an opacity value of about 65 or less when oil free, and which web] substrate changes transparency by at least 30 percentage points when loaded with about 6 grams or less of oil per square centimeter.

29. (ONCE AMENDED) The oil absorbing wipe material of claim 25 wherein the wipe, [when] after it has changed transparency, has a transparency of about 90 or greater.

45. (ONCE AMENDED) A method for forming a flexible coating on an oil absorbing wipe material suitable for wiping a users skin comprising, providing an oil absorbing porous substrate having two faces wherein the substrate has a transparency of less than 65 percent, which porous substrate changes transparency upon absorption of oil, coating the porous substrate on at least a portion of at least one face with a coating solution comprising at least a film forming polymer, a particulate filler and an evaporative solvent with at least one additional additive, the coating solution having a viscosity of from 2000 to 100,000 cps and a percent solids of 60 to 80 percent wherein the coating is visible on the coated face of the porous substrate and which coating does not penetrate to the opposite face of the porous substrate.